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**BRINKS
HOFER
GILSON
& LIONE**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Akira Nakano et al.

Appln. No.: 09/925,579

Filed: August 9, 2001

For: PLASMA PROCESSING APPARATUS
AND SYSTEM, PERFORMANCE
VALIDATION SYSTEM AND
INSPECTION METHOD THEREFOR

Examiner: Rudy Zervigon

Art Unit: 1763

Confirmation No.: 2869

Attorney Docket No.: 9281-4140
CK US00016

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Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (37 CFR § 1.114)

Sir:

Applicant requests continued examination of the above-identified application under 37
C.F.R. §1.114.

☒ Submission under 37 CFR 1.114 (*check at least one of the following*):

☐ Previously submitted:

- ☐ Applicant requests nonentry of any previously-filed unentered amendments.
- ☐ Please enter and consider the Amendment After Final Under 37 CFR §1.116
previously filed on _____
- ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on

- ☐ Other: _____

☒ Attached is/are:

- ☐ An Information Disclosure Statement
- ☒ An Amendment to the written description, claims, or drawings
- ☐ New Arguments and/or New Evidence in support of Patentability
- ☐ Other: _____

☐ Request for suspension of action:

Applicant(s) hereby request suspension of action on the above-identified application under 37 CFR §1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; requires Processing Fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)).

☐ Small Entity Status:

☐ Applicant hereby asserts entitlement to claim small entity status under 37 CFR §§ 1.9 and 1.27.

☐ A small entity statement or assertion of entitlement to claim small entity status was filed in prior application no. _____ / _____ and such status is still proper and desired.

☐ Is no longer desired.

☒ Applicant calculates the following fees to be due in connection with this Request:

☒ A Request fee of \$810.00 under 37 CFR §1.17(e).

☐ A suspension processing fee of \$_____ under 37 CFR §1.17(i).

☐ An additional filing fee of \$_____ under 37 CFR §1.16 (_____ additional independent claims and/or _____ additional total claims).

☒ An extension fee of \$120.00 under 37 CFR §1.17(a) for a (1) one-month extension of time.

☐ Fee payment to cover the above-enumerated fee(s):

☐ A check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed.

☒ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 (BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE) in the amount of \$930.00.

☐ A payment by credit card in the amount of \$_____ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this paper (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925 (BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE).

Respectfully submitted,

October 4, 2007

Date

/Gustavo Siller, Jr./

Gustavo Siller, Jr. (Reg. No. 32,305)